

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and Members of the Public Health Committee:

As a Licensed Psychologist in Connecticut, I am writing in strong opposition to HB 5521, for the following 4 reasons:

- 1) The term “psychologist” reflects doctoral level providers (both in Connecticut and on a national level). These graduate programs are four to five years in length and require internships and several practicums to ensure proper training and experience before earning the title.
- 2) Allowing licensure of master’s level psychologists would create public confusion regarding provider education and training. Consumers struggle to keep all the designations clear without adding to the confusion of allowing those with two year degrees to be licensed the same way as those with more extensive education.
- 3) Master’s level clinicians are currently able to become licensed in Connecticut as “Licensed Professional Counselors” (LPC’s). This designation permits them licensing without confusing the consumer.
- 4) This bill does not impact school psychologists, as they are under the authority of the Department of Education.

For each of these reasons, I am urging you to oppose HB 5521.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ines Schroeder, Psy. D.
Psychologist